

Inventor: Huse and Freedman
Serial No.: 09/839,469
Filed: April 20, 2001
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Therefore, claims 1-9 (Group I) are pending in the application. The Examiner agreed that the Restriction Requirement is moot due to the cancellation of claims on the transmittal form. However, the Examiner indicated that the election of species within the Group I claims is still required.

Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's time and helpful comments in the telephonic interview on August 8, 2002. During the interview, the species requirement within the Group I claims was discussed. Applicants believe that the Response below addresses the issues discussed with the Examiner.

Claims 1-9 (Group I) are currently pending in the application. Regarding the invention of Group I, the Office Action alleges that claims 1-5 and 8 are generic. Two subgroups, species of "collective receptor variant population" and species of "ligand" type, are set forth in the Office Action. Election of a specific disclosed species in each of the subgroups for prosecution on the merits is required by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 121.

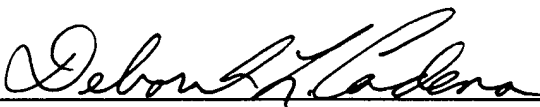
Applicants elect for examination collective G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) variant population as the "collective receptor variant population" and GPCR ligands as the "ligand type." Support for the election of these species can be found throughout the specification, for example, at page 6, line 18, to page 7, line 7; page 17, lines 5-22; page 20, lines 9-17; page 23, lines 7-19; and page 25, lines 8-21. Applicants assert that claims 1-9 read on the elected species.

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Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned agent to discuss the nature of the invention when the case is taken up for substantive examination. In addition, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent or Cathryn Campbell if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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